



Tony Allred, MDNR/TEA*
Ken Belt, LTER*
Christine Buckley, Harford Co.*
Brian Clevenger, MDE*
Kim Coble, CBF
Jim Cummins, ICPRB*
David Bancroft, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay*
John Grace, MDE*
Paul T. Jacobson, Langheir Ecology*
Mary Ellen Ley, USGS/CBP*
Angela Morales, Howard Co.*

Andrew Miller, UMBC*
Nancy Roth, Versar, Inc.
Steve Stewart, Baltimore Co./DER*
Robert J. Shedlock, USGS*
Adel Shirmohammadi, UMD/CP
William P. Stack, Baltimore City/DPW*
Chris Tanner, SMCM*
Carl Weber, UMBC
Ken Yetman, DNR/WRD*

*Board Members Present at This Meeting

Executive Secretary: Dr. Paul Miller, MDNR/MANTA
Guests: Marcia Smith, MDE; Emery Cleaves, MGS; Ron Klauda, DNR

MINUTES

Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting

Date: 16 April 2002 Time: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm

Place: Fish and Wildlife Service

Chesapeake Bay Field Office

177 Admiral Cochrane Dr.

Annapolis, MD 21401

Chairman Stack called the meeting to order at 10:00 am by welcoming Board members and guests. The minutes of the January 15, 2002 MWMCC Board Meeting were approved by the Board.

Alliance for Chesapeake Bay and Virginia Water Monitoring Council - David Bancroft, ACB.

David Bancroft joined the Alliance in July 2001. His background is in policy. He replaces Fran Flanigan as Director of ACB and will serve on the MWMCC Board of Directors.

Fran Flanigan began the Citizen Monitoring Program around 1985. Citizen monitoring suffers from a lack of visibility. Mr. Bancroft believes their data could be used to present a state of the watershed from the ground up. Local ➡ State ➡ Regional.

Mr. Bancroft provided a handout that represented the extension of an agreement from VA DEQ, VA DCR, and SOS of the Isaac Walton League. The Alliance does water chemistry measurement and SOS does macrobenthos. Citizen data will be used as Appendix B for the Virginia 305B report. The Alliance spends about \$50K on volunteer monitoring.

The Letter of Agreement to Implement the Virginia Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Program was signed at a conference last week (April 2002) at VMI in Lexington, VA. Mr. Bancroft suggests that we in Maryland consider this type of agreement with Volunteer/Citizen organizations in Maryland.

Discussion - MWMC Board

Volunteer monitoring is an important monitoring resource and we need to discuss how to bring about a common effort. DNR's Stream Waders Program is an example of how Maryland is endeavoring to get citizen and local government data into 305B report.

Citizen monitors are often engineers, scientists and interested retired professionals. They are us in the future.

MWMC is focused upon non-tidal monitoring. Bill Stack feels that the Alliance could assist the Council in coordinating tidal and non-tidal monitoring efforts. Bill Stack believes there is a lack of coordination between the Bay Program and everyone else and asks the ACB to help broker the collaboration.

Emery Cleaves would like the Council to provide training seminars for training citizen monitors.

Ken Belt endorses a passive approach to help existing volunteer organizations develop protocols for collecting good data. Develop QA/QC practices, get access to equipment training. Paul Jacobson pointed out that a sampling design workshop followed by a data analysis and interpretation may be a good thing to initiate.

Funds for citizen monitoring from the Bay Program have dried up. The CBP does not see any potential for using their data in modeling bay water quality. Mary Ellen Ley wants the state agencies to do what DNR has done to target citizen monitoring and to demonstrate to Bay Program how volunteer data could be pulled into regional assessments.

Tidal and Non-tidal Monitoring Coordination - Bob Shedlock and Bill Stack

Bob Shedlock and Bill Stack met with monitoring directors at MDE and DNR to get ideas about how tidal and non-tidal monitoring programs might be integrated.

At MD DNR, they met with Paul Massicot, Bruce Michael and Ron Klauda.

Some needs were identified but the role that the MWMC might play was not determined. E.G., develop common indicators.

Bill cites the Awhite paper@outlining problems and solutions.

1. Comprehensive statement about water monitoring goals.
2. Need a meta data repository.
3. Institute an information exchange to share monitoring goals and activity on an annual basis.
4. Develop a collaborative effort to develop a statewide monitoring strategy. A Monitoring strategy was developed collaboratively by MDE and DNR.

In a meeting with Bob Summers (Director, Water Management Administration) and Rick Eskin (Assistant Deputy of TARSA), they recognized a need for compatible data bases. Tony Allred reported that a number of MDE data bases are in Oracle while DNR's is in Access. Rich Eskin requested that MWMC sponsor workshops on developing nutrient criteria for the Chesapeake Bay. Bob Summers recognized the need for a workshop on groundwater and requested that MWMC to work on minimum flow by requirements for streams.

Chuck Fox and Merrylin Zaw-Mon (Deputy Secretary of MDE) will meet to discuss how they believe integration between MDE and DNR may be effected. Local governments feel, often, as if they are serving two masters resulting from the lack of coordination between MDE and DNR.

Emery Cleaves wants the Board to have a core staff to attract money and then distribute it to further Council goals and perceived needs.

Development of a Strategic Plan for MWMC - Bob Shedlock

Bob Shedlock distributed a Ahandout@Maryland Water Monitoring Council: The Next Generation.@ Jim Cummins asked for a discussion about funding to continue the Council prior to developing a strategic plan. Emery Cleaves requested that Paul Miller join him in a discussion with Paul Massicot and Verna Harrison of DNR to get funds to support the MWMC.

Bill Stack suggests going to NOAA, EPA to get their support.

It was proposed that the proposal to CZM for 319 funding be organized in a way that the workshops and training sessions could be the products desired by 319 review board.

Emery moved that the topic of continued support be assigned to a small group to explore these options for council continuation.

An Ad Hoc funding group was formed consisting of Brian Clevenger, Emery Cleaves, Bill Stack, Bob Shedlock and Paul Jacobson. And the Board returned to

discussion of a strategic plan.

Tony Allred suggested that the annual goal setting include specific training and coordination that has been identified by participating agencies which then would be asked to support the directed activities of the Council.

Paul Jacobson say 3 components are desirable:

1. Short term planning
2. Long term planning
3. Strategic plan

There was no further action on this agenda item.

Annual Conference Committee

Chairman Stack asked for volunteers to organize the 8th Annual MWMC Conference. Jim Cummins volunteered to act as chairman and Christine Buckley, Tony Allred, Rita Bruckler, Bill Stack, and Chris Tanner, all agreed to serve.

Ron Klauda suggested that a call for papers has advantages as it encourages participation from outside the Council and brings in new ideas.

Bill Stack wants Bay Program people involved in the Annual Conference. Baltimore travel plaza as a possibility for Annual Conference in 2003.

Workshop on Research Needs for Tidal-fresh Regions of Maryland - Chris Tanner

Wet weather events are important as short lived, high impact events. Storm events are often more important than average long-term conditions . These are the events that have profound influence on tidal-fresh areas more so than drought.

ME Ley said that the bay program is interested in tidal fresh areas as important fish nurseries. What effect is there from short-term, intense events (snow melt, frontal storms, hurricanes).

Chris Tanner wants some help organizing the workshop. Local expertise will be sought for speakers and facilitator. Mary Ellen will talk to Rich Batiuk about sponsoring such a workshop.

Harford county has a workgroup that is studying SAV.

Tidal - fresh workgroup may meet in late September. It includes Christine Buckley,

Claire Buchanan, and Chris Tanner.

Marcia Smith Groundwater Monitoring Workshop at USGS/WRD on June 13, 2002 - Marcia Smith

Presently there is a network including coastal plain and hard rock areas of the state, but they are monitored in different ways.

A committee has been formed to organize the workshop. The committee includes Earl Green, Jim Gearhart, Marcia Smith and Bill Stack. The goal of the workshop is to increase awareness about the importance of groundwater and groundwater monitoring.

Bob Shedlock suggests that the results of these two workshops be incorporated and/or presented at the Annual Conference in November 2002.

Emery Cleaves wants the results of the workshop to be the impetus to develop a groundwater monitoring network strategy for the state.

Programmatic Coordination - Steve Stewart

Sherm Garrison gave a presentation on the 305b report and Charlie Poukish presented the 303d list of impaired sites. The 303d list will employ a tiered system (approach). Tier V will be the TMDL list, Tier IV are waters that have been impaired but don't need to be listed, Tier III, Tier II and Tier I are waters that are impaired .

Their next meeting of the PCC is May 10th 2002 and will include a presentation of the results of the Montgomery County/MBSS sampling method Ashoot out.@

Monitoring and Assessment - Ron Klauda

The Four guidance documents that are being edited by the M&A Committee will be presented on the Internet as is and provide links to sites with more information.

The Monitoring and Assessment Committee will work with DNR and MDE in getting biological criteria for flow-by regulations on non-tidal streams.

The M&A Committee proposed a meeting in January of monitoring groups to exchange plans for the next season's monitoring activity. Ron asked for endorsement by the Board for the PCC and M&A Committee to work together on this annual task.

Data Management Committee - Tony Allred

The Data Management Committee was not active this quarter.

Bill Stack has seven short articles that will be published on the web soon in the PCC Newsletter.

The July meeting of the Board of Directors may be held on the Eastern Shore. Wye Island and Atkins Room at Tuckahoe State Park were proposed as possible locations.

Adjournment

Chairman Stack adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.